

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-22 are now cancelled. New claims 23-42 are introduced. Claims 23 and 30 are independent claims. Claims 24-29 and 31-42 depend from independent claims 23 and 30, respectively.

The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments reflected in the listing of claims.

Listing of claims:

1. – 22. (Cancelled)

23. (New) A hearing screener apparatus comprising:

a housing; and

a testing probe operatively coupled to the housing, wherein the testing probe generates electrical signals based on otoacoustic emissions of the inner ear of a test subject, when the testing probe is inserted into the ear canal of the test subject.

24. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 23, comprising at least one microphone mounted with the testing probe for generating the electrical signals based on the otoacoustic emissions.

25. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the testing probe is vibrationally isolated from the housing.

26. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the testing probe is elastically coupled to the housing.

27. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 23, comprising an isolation body elastically coupled between the testing probe and the housing.

28. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 23, comprising an ear tip mounted on the testing probe for acoustically sealing the ear canal of a test subject, when the testing probe is inserted into the ear canal of the test subject.

29. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the generated electrical signals are used for distortion-product otoacoustic emissions (DPOAE) testing.

30. (New) A hearing screener apparatus comprising:
a housing;
a digital signal processor (DSP) within the housing; and
a testing probe operatively coupled to the housing, wherein the testing probe generates electrical signals based on otoacoustic emissions, when the testing probe is inserted into the ear canal of a test subject, and wherein the DSP generates measurement data based on the electrical signals.

31. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, comprising a display for displaying the generated measurement data, said display arranged in the housing.

32. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the display comprises an LCD display.

33. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, comprising at least one microphone mounted with the testing probe for generating the electrical signals based on the otoacoustic emissions.

34. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the testing probe is vibrationally isolated from the housing.

35. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the testing probe is elastically coupled to the housing.

36. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, comprising an isolation body elastically coupled between the testing probe and the housing.

37. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, comprising an ear tip mounted on the testing probe for acoustically sealing the ear canal of a test subject, when the testing probe is inserted into the ear canal of the test subject.

38. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the generated electrical signals are used for distortion-product otoacoustic emissions (DPOAE) testing.

39. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the housing comprises at least one control button for controlling operation of the hearing screener apparatus.

40. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the housing comprises at least one infrared connection interface for communicating at least a portion of the generated measurement data to at least one peripheral device communicatively coupled to the hearing screener apparatus.

41. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the at least one infrared connection interface communicates at least a portion of the generated measurement data to a printer which is communicatively coupled to the hearing screener apparatus.

42. (New) The hearing screener apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the printer comprises a printer with infrared communication capabilities.